(c) the preventive steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b): The year-wise details of cases of sale of spurious fertilisers that have come to the notice of the Government during the last two years are as follows:-

Years	*No. of cases reported*
1989-90	9
1990-91	17

(c): The State Governments have been given requisite powers under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 to enforce quality of Fertilizers. The Government of India and the State Governments have appointed Inspectors under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 and have established a network of quality control laboratories to safe-guard the interests of the farmers.

[*English*]

Selection of Stenographers in ICAR

4690. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the gross irregularities committed in examination conducted by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) for selection of candidates for the post of Stenographer Gr. III in September-October, 1987;

(b) if so, the action taken against the persons found guilty;

(c) whether the result of the examination has since been declared;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION, ANIMAL HUSBANDARY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (e): Sir, Indian Council of Agriculture Research had conducted an examination for selection of candidates for Steno Gr. III in September-October, 1987. On the basis of the said examination, 20 persons were found eligible for appointment. However, only 16 persons initially joined, out of which 7 subsequently left the job and presently only 9 are working. After the offer of appointment was sent to the selected candidates, a complaint was received alleging malpractices in the conduct of the said examination. The complaint was investigated in detail. Some evidence of possible tampering in two cases was found. The Govt. Examiner of Questionable Documents, Shimla was consulted in the matter. On the basis of the evidence and records available, it was felt that it would be difficult to pin-point the responsibility on any particular individual.

Allotment of Land to SCs/STs Under 20-Point Scheme

4691. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Land allotment under 20-point scheme: Police, property dealers frighten SC/ST into silence" appearing in the Indian Express dated February 20, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;